

HOUSE BILL 1781

By Jones U

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56,  
Chapter 28 and Title 68, Chapter 11, relative to  
ambulances serving hospitals.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 11, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 68-11-2\_\_.

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a hospital shall admit or otherwise accommodate each patient who arrives at such hospital by ambulance within thirty (30) minutes of such patient's arrival by ambulance.

(b) If a hospital fails to admit or otherwise accommodate a patient who has arrived by ambulance in a manner sufficient that the ambulance personnel may release such patient and resume their duties within such thirty-minute limit, then the hospital shall be subject to a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per period of delay, such periods to be measured in thirty-minute increments.

(c) The division of health related boards shall administer the enforcement provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. The division of health related boards shall promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.